



M. Kevin Sorrels  
09/990,777

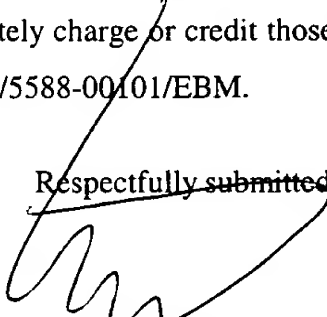
- (4) Fee Authorization in the amount of \$654.00 to cover the filing fee for a small entity as follows (2 pages):

\$ 370.00 -- basic filing fee;  
\$ 219.00 -- surcharge for excess claims;  
\$ 65.00 -- surcharge for late filing of declaration and fee; and

- (5) A return postcard.

If further extension of time is required, Applicant hereby respectfully requests the appropriate extension of time. If any fees are inadvertently omitted or if any additional fees are required or have been overpaid, please appropriately charge or credit those fees to Conley, Rose & Tayon, P.C. Deposit Account Number 50-1505/5588-00101/EBM.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Eric B. Meyertons  
Reg. No. 34,876

CONLEY, ROSE & TAYON, P.C.  
P.O. BOX 398  
AUSTIN, TX 78767-0398  
(512) 703-1254 (voice)  
(512) 703-1250 (facsimile)

Date: 2/5/02



## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING/RECEIPT DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
09/990,777	11/21/2001	M. Kevin Sorrels	5588-00101

ERIC B. MEYERTONS  
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P.O. BOX 398  
AUSTIN, TX 78767-0398

COPY OF PAPERS  
ORIGINALLY FILED

CONFIRMATION NO. 1822

## FORMALITIES LETTER



\*OC00000007159885\*

Date Mailed: 12/05/2001

## NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

02/28/2002 NMOHAMM1 00000030 501505-09990770

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

01 FC:201 -- 370.00 CH  
02 FC:203 135.00 CH  
03 FC:202 .. 84.00 CH  
04 FC:205 65.00 CH

Filing Date Granted

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The item(s) indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given **TWO MONTHS** from the date of this Notice within which to file all required items and pay any fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- The statutory basic filing fee is missing.  
*Applicant must submit \$ 740 to complete the basic filing fee for a non-small entity. If appropriate, applicant may make a written assertion of entitlement to small entity status and pay the small entity filing fee (37 CFR 1.27).*
- Total additional claim fee(s) for this application is \$438.
  - \$270 for 15 total claims over 20.
  - \$168 for 2 independent claims over 3.
- The oath or declaration is missing.  
*A properly signed oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.63, identifying the application by the above Application Number and Filing Date, is required.*
- To avoid abandonment, a late filing fee or oath or declaration surcharge as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(l) of \$130 for a non-small entity, must be submitted with the missing items identified in this letter.
- The balance due by applicant is \$ 1308.

Adjustment date: 03/01/2002 NMOHAMM1  
02/28/2002 NMOHAMM1 00000030 501505 09990770  
01 FC:201 370.00 CR  
02 FC:203 135.00 CR  
03 FC:202 84.00 CR  
04 FC:205 65.00 CR

*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*

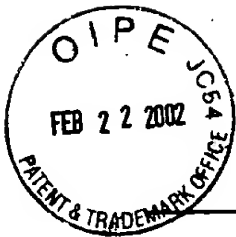
Customer Service Center

Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE

03/01/2002 NMOHAMM1 000000124 501505 03990777

01 FC:201 370.00 CH  
02 FC:203 135.00 CH  
03 FC:202 84.00 CH  
04 FC:205 65.00 CH



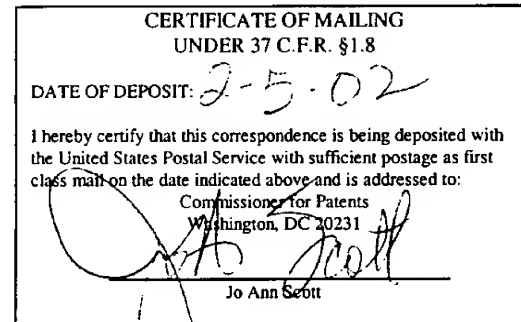
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/990,777  
Filed: November 21, 2001  
Inventor(s):  
M. Kevin Sorrels

§ Examiner: Unknown  
§ Group/Art Unit: 3731  
§ Atty. Dkt. No: 5588-00101  
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Title: PROTECTIVE GUARDS  
FOR FINGERS AND  
THUMBS



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**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS**  
**INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.27(a)(1) for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(h) of Title 35 United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled **PROTECTIVE GUARDS FOR FINGERS AND THUMBS**, described in:

- ☐ the specification filed herewith.  
☒ application serial no.: 09/990,777, filed November 21, 2001.  
☐ patent no.: \_\_\_\_\_, issued \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☒ I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and are under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 C.F.R. § 1.27(a)(1) if the person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 C.F.R. § 1.27(a)(2) or a nonprofit organization under 37 C.F.R. § 1.27(a)(3); or
- ☐ Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below.\* No rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who could not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 C.F.R. § 1.27 (a)(1) or a small

Jeffery W. Henry  
09/891,621

business concern under 37 CFR 1.27(a)(2); or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.27(a)(2) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.27(a)(3).

**\*NOTE:** Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities.

FULL NAME:

ADDRESS:

☐ Individual

☐ Small Business Concern

☐ Nonprofit Organization

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Inventor's Full Name: M. Kevin Sorrels

Inventor's Signature: M. Kevin Sorrels

Date: 12/29/01



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/990,777  
Filed: November 21, 2001  
Inventor(s):  
M. Kevin Sorrels

Title: PROTECTIVE GUARDS  
FOR FINGERS AND  
THUMBS

§ Examiner: Unknown  
§ Group/Art Unit: 3731  
§ Atty. Dkt. No: 5588-00101  
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

DATE OF DEPOSIT: 2-5-02

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on the date indicated above and is addressed to:

ATTN: Box Missing Parts  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

*Jo Ann Scott*  
Jo Ann Scott

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FEE AUTHORIZATION

ATTN: Box Missing Parts  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the following fees to Conley, Rose & Tayon,  
P.C. Deposit Account Number 50-1505/5588-00101:

- \$ 370.00 -- basic filing fee;
- \$ 219.00 -- excess claims fee; and
- \$ 65.00 -- surcharge for late filing of declaration and fee

Total Amount: \$654.00

Attorney Docket No.: 5588-00101

M. Kevin Sorrels  
09/990,777

The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any extension fee or other fees which may be necessary to the same account number. If the above mentioned account is found to have insufficient funds, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Conley, Rose & Tayon, P.C. Deposit Account Number 50-1623/5588-00101/EBM.

Respectfully submitted,



Eric B. Meyertons  
Reg. No. 34,876

Attorney for Applicant

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